

dialog

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February 4, 2000

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THE STUDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
OF GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE, TORONTO

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Students gather outside Queen's Park during the February 2nd Access 2000 rally. Image by Scott Gerus

Student Protest Draws Thousands

by Kari Macknight

The early February Arctic chill could do nothing to dissuade Ontario's debt-loaded post-secondary populace.

University and college students from across the GTA marched en masse to Queen's Park to tell the provincial government they'd had enough — enough of escalating tuition fees and enough of cuts in funding.

Based on numbers alone, the February 2nd Access 2000 March was a definite success. About 150 George Brown students left from the St. James student lounge, marching up George St., along Dundas St. E. and up Mutual St. to Lake Devo at Ryerson Polytechnic University, to join the rally there.

The Ryerson rally brought together students from that school, from York University and from as far away as Guelph and Peterborough, among others.

After some music and speeches the block-long crowd took to Yonge Street, then across College St. to the University of Toronto. Numbering in the thousands, the students marched to the Legislature. Many organized labour groups were on hand to support the cause, joined by area high school students.

"We have to let the people at Queen's Park know we're unhappy," said Jen, a Grade 12 student from Jarvis Collegiate. "By the time I get to university in two years I might not be able to pay the tuition."

The 17-year-old says she is saving all she can but worries that she'll still have to incur ten of thousands of dollars in debt in order to finish her education. "I want to be an aerospace engineer," she continued. "Why should I have to mortgage the rest of my life for it?"

Many of the students interviewed agreed that free education isn't a realistic answer to the problem.

"I don't know if grants are the solution," offers Mike Graham, 25, a GBC student in the Tool and Die program. "We definitely need more help in paying for school, lower tuition might help... [not the government] giving money away. I think students have to be more cautious on how they spend their education money."

Graham doesn't think students should be attending post-secondary institutions on an indefinite basis. "You have to think before you go to school."

Jared Phelps, a 27-year-old graduate student at York, agrees. "Sure, I've got a lot of debt. I'm in my sixth consecutive year and that doesn't come cheap. I don't think the government should finance MBAs or PhDs for everyone that wants one, but certainly we need to be thinking about how to relieve some of this crazy debt epidemic."

Phelps says his ideal tuition structure would involve more co-op programs where students could earn money while learning about their chosen fields, making them more employable and less debt-loaded when they finish school.

He also suggests that corporations and businesses that assist in the co-op placements could be entitled to further tax breaks when they hire grads who've worked with them through these programs. "It may not be a perfect idea," he says, "but people have to realize that nothing comes for free."

The sea of yellow placards the students carried demanded lower tuition fees and the restoration of social programs, both recurring themes in the tale of student poverty. Many students just want things to be better, they aren't looking for a free ride.

Colin, a 21-year-old Ryerson business student who declined to give his last name, says that the Conservative government is hurting Ontario's future. The sign he carried stated simply: The Tories Are Killing Us.

"Many people I know at school have to eat from food banks. They can barely afford their books and they can't work that much because of the demands of their curriculum. Is this the government's vision of the leaders of tomorrow?"

He added that although he had been lucky enough to save the money for school, that many people at the same stage in their education already owed \$20,000. "Think about how much money you have to make a year, after taxes, to pay that back. It's ridiculous. Who wants to still owe student loan money when they're 40?"

Although students may not agree on what should be done to lighten their load, they spoke with one voice when they

stopped midday traffic and when they gathered on the steps of Queen's Park. "Education is a right! We will not give up the fight!"

"Contrary to popular opinion," said one of the speakers at Ryerson, "students are organized." The question remains whether they are organized enough to turn the excitement created by the March into real action.

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diatribe

To be, or not to be.

by Alda Kang

Wowee! As one of the editors of dialog I recently attended a conference held by the Canadian University Press (CUP), and I have to say, sometimes politics can put a damper on things. I suppose that's why you don't mention politics on a first date — it can get a little touchy (non-sexual).

CUP is an organization of newspapers from post-secondary institutions across Canada (dialog is a prospective member). CUP has quite a large membership, most of which are the largest of the country's student papers. They provide a news wire service to get articles from different regions, student advertising, and other services geared towards the student press. We are only trial members, sort of getting our feet wet before we make a decision. I decided to attend to find out more about this organization and report back to dialog. I also wanted to whet my growing appetite for journalism.

At the very last minute things were settled and I bought my plane ticket. Off to Winnipeg I went, not knowing what to expect or even where I was really going (at the time I didn't even know which hotel I was staying at). I'd never been to Winnipeg. I'd heard it was cold.

Hmm...alone attending a conference you know nothing about. When I landed I planned to call from

the air port to find out the name of the hotel was. I was still unsure if they even knew I was coming. But as luck would have it there was a shuttle bus to drive delegates to the hotel.

I dropped off my bags my room and found out none of my roommates were there yet. I decided to wander around the hotel. There was a number of people were gathered in a room preparing things for the conference. When in doubt — help out, I figured. I joined an assembly line stuffing bags with various conference and CUP information. Wow! Each delegate got a mug, a canvas bag, a fancy leatherette note pad to take with you when interviewing stories, and oddly enough, a lot of information about sexual harassment/assault. It's creepy...you get to a conference you know nothing about, you're going to stay for several days, and they give you all these pamphlets about sexual assault (I mean there were at least five) and a condom. What goes on at these things? I suppose I should commend CUP on being so thorough.

Note: Boy were they slick. They had lots of sponsorship, let me tell you: various associations from universities/colleges; the John H. Macdonald Journalism Foundation; City of Winnipeg; CanWest Global Communications Corp.; Globaltv.com; Adobe; The Canadian Association of Journalists; Athletics Canada; and more.

All went well the first day and my roommates were really nice. Fortunately there were only three of us. We got a cot and two beds, and didn't have to sleep with a total stranger in beds that were oddly-smaller-than-doubles-larger-than-twins. I'd never seen those before.

On day two I attended several seminars about writing skills, copy editing, and interviewing skills. Nothing much went on this day relevant to myself.

There were some caucuses and commissions I didn't attend because there were seminars going on at the same time. But by lunch there was a strange feeling was in the air, like there were things going on at these caucuses, a strange backroom meeting feeling.

That night I found out about all the problems this seemingly perfect organization was having. CUP is great, but realistically, there are some glitches.

I won't bore you with details. To make a long story short, there were some budgetary issues from the one commission, which in turn affected the new services another commission wanted to start. By the time the midweek plenary rolled around (a forum designed to debate the topics that will be voted on) there was so much tension you could cut it with a knife. I was so confused as to what was going on. There was a two-inch thick tomb I got that included the budget, staff reports and all of the commissions reports. Hello, I have never in any way dealt with anything like this (holy eye opening!).

So, what's dialog to do? Become a member, or look for another community newspaper organization to collaborate with? It's a hard decision. I think we should find something, otherwise we (dialog and GBC) will continue to live in a kind of vacuum, apart from a lot of other experiences/influences which are both good and bad.

Is CUP the answer? The members (papers) serve as examples of how papers are run, especially larger ones. I learned a tremendous amount about the organization of other papers, and a lot of things that I didn't know before I went to the conference.

As a first-time editor, and a person not familiar with many newspapers, I am glad that I had the opportunity to go. I hope future editors do as well.

I love everyone—almost

by Allan Stokell

This issue of Dialog marks my second year of writing this column. Once it was a mere diatribe against various governments or groups. Today I like to think it is a bit more reflective. This is the Love Issue, and I dutifully wrote out to my love personal. I leave it to you to imagine which one it is. English is a strange language. Not only is the spelling difficult, there are numerous meanings of the same word. Love can mean anything from carnal knowledge to appreciation. What follows is a list of people and things I love, you can figure out which definition applies.

I love to bicycle. It's something I have done since a child, but something I have developed a real passion for since I sold my car. I swore I would never again be a slave to the freeway, and I have lost weight, gained muscle and had a surprising number of passes made at me since I began biking to work every day.

I love my family. They give me a sense of stability and surety in a very changeable world. I especially love

my life partner, Marlene who has taught me much of the ways of love.

I love my workers at the Dialog Collective. I continue to be amazed at how things flow in an organized, secure and compassionate manner. Although there is an age variance of more than thirty years, we continue to be able to defy the generation gap and produce a meaningful, quality product. Our diversity reflects the fact that GBC is the most diverse college on the planet.

I love my fellow workers at the Student Association. Not only do we reflect the diversity of the College, we pull together as an

incredible team. This past year has proved there is nothing we cannot conquer if we set our minds to the task.

In particular I have a great deal of love and admiration for my boss, Monique Kavanagh. She has a very difficult job and provides a high level of service to the students of GBC. She works incredibly hard to achieve her goals and helps her employees to achieve theirs. She does this with a degree of energy and commitment that I have described to her as "scary". I consider her my mentor and I look to her for advice and direction.

I love sex. It's a

especially on Valentine's Day I would encourage all readers to be honest with their sexual partners. Full disclosure may not get you horizontal with the person you lust after, but it will let you sleep well afterwards. Treat everyone like you yourself would expect to be treated and you will forge long, loving relationships. No matter how good you are, sex just takes minutes, relationships take years. Don't objectivise your partner. If you are in doubt about a relationship, take it into your hand. You know what I mean.

My last love message is to one among us, and you know who you are. You are going through a complete metamorphosis. You don't realise that I admire you greatly. Your strength and determination is a challenge to us all. Never give up, you will become the person you wish to be.

Finally, some things I don't love. I don't love the policies of the Reform Party even when they have a new name. The fascists called themselves National Socialists, but they were still Nazis.



difficult subject to broach, but

opinion

THEY WILL BE MISSED

by Allan Stokell

"On Wednesday, January 19, 2000, the Student Association of George Brown College Board of Directors deliberated and determined that Jerome Adamo, President, and Elizabeth Antunes, Vice

President St. James no longer met the bylaw requirements to serve in their respective roles on the Executive Committee. In addition, the Board of Directors accepted the resignation of James Williams, Vice President Hospitality." So read the communication from the Student Association (SA). I would like to add a personal note. I have had the pleasure to work closely with all three of these Executive in my roll as Manager of Student Publications. Their commitment to the welfare of our College's students was always their

priority. In particular Elizabeth and Jerome took leadership rolls in organizing Access 2000 protests and making changes in the direction and policies of the SA. The long hours they put in reflect both their commitment and the increased participation of the student body. All students of this college were indeed well served by their hard work. I applaud their efforts and will miss their input greatly.

Disability Issues:

Changing the Presentation of Materials

by Daniel Bell

Students with learning disabilities are concerned with gaining knowledge at a pace that is equal to 'normal' students. In order to do this, content of course material does not need to be changed, only methods of presentation. Many students with learning disabilities have problems absorbing information in a short span of time. For example, it is difficult for a student with a learning disability to read and understand a 50-page dissertation for next class. A fact which makes individuals assume that slow people must be dumb. I suggest that materials assigned be presented in a fashion made easily understandable and geared towards the learning disabled. It should be kept in mind that content of materials should not be changed only presentation.

The advantages of the proposed changes are numerous. First, 'challenged' students will learn at a rate equal to 'non-challenged' students. Second, there is no change in the academic grading of courses, only the way it is assigned. It is unrealistic to expect 'learning challenged' students to endure the same workload (equal to asking a mouse to move a mountain) that is carried by the 'non-challenged' student. Perhaps decreasing the number of assignments but

keeping the objective and skills learned clear. Third, a clear definition between workload (as in content of materials) and course load (which is the number of courses a student is required to take) is needed.

As many students face a life-long struggle with learning disabilities, tools are used as time savers appear to be the answer, but not necessarily so. All of this does not change the fact that the student is 'challenged'. Facilitators, faculty, and academic administrators must realize students with 'learning challenges' should be taught in a manner where the academic programming is modified. The daily struggle of trying to meet or exceed the 'normal' standards of academics should be centered on a student's abilities and program. The greatest failure is a challenged student faces is that often, it is individuals who hold authority that lack the understanding that is needed to deal with and meet the needs to assist 'challenged' students.

The frustration felt by a student who strives to succeed is all too often misunderstood. If a 'challenged' student should fail it has a greater impact on that individual.

"If an adult cannot learn the way we teach we must teach him or her the way they can learn."

Retreat: Listening and Working

by Susan E. Gapka

On the morning of Tuesday, January 4, staff, executive, and board members embarked on the first staff board retreat of the new millennium. Driving in the Student Association van we reached "Windreach Farms" in Port Perry Ontario. As we unpacked our bags I wondered what the agenda would provide.

We immediately checked in and reminded each other of our past and current successes. We had lunch followed by an animated discussion surrounding our Assess 2000 strategy. Access 2000 is a Canadian Federation of Students initiative aimed at increasing pressure on the federal and provincial decision makers to implement crucial measures for post-secondary education. Vice President of Education, Margaret Cameron facilitated the session. After a general debate we broke into small groups to discuss specific strategies. Promotional methods, creative strategies, town hall meetings, referendum, and strike day activities were all discussed. I participated in the Town Hall group and was rewarded by being asked to coordinate it. We concluded the session with an air of enthusiasm excitement about Access 2000.

During the next forum entitled "Future Representation", we searched for ways to increase election visibility, participation

and voter turnout. Concerns of creating more participation in the election process sensitive to the needs of the students were addressed. One suggestion was putting a similar effort into the election process as Access 2000 was. Policy resolution was also discussed. We planned to schedule the next elections close to our Annual General Meeting in March.

The stir fried dinner cooked by the Senior Management is delicious. Later we relax and enjoy various leisure activities including a game of Balderdash. We retire at different times and wake up to a hearty breakfast of toast, coffee, and cereal. We are now ready for today's business.

Alan Stokell facilitated serious discussion about the future of our Source Handbook. It is apparent that the College and the SA will be publishing separate books soon. A plan is presented and participants articulate their input on the new project. Advertising policy consumes much of the discussion.

After a short break Monique Kavanagh described the new Life Works Centre project. The college has provided the SA with new space in room 167B STJ. Plans include space for the Dialog, a disability lounge, a queer caucus, and space for a Life Works Coordinator. The Women's Centre will be moving to the present Dialog location.

After a short lunch we turn to Bylaw policy. Our President,

Jerome Adamo, leads the discussion about proposed changes to by-laws. We broke into small groups to review various topics: discrimination policy, President and Vice-President roles, disability issues, etc. After a short debriefing we prepared for our return to Toronto.

Senior management and the Executive stayed behind to formulate an action plan from the information gathered from the sessions we attended. Later they will create a budget to support the plan.

During the ride back to Toronto, I reflected on the past few days. Throughout my term on the board I have experienced several frustrations. This retreat provided an opportunity to discuss several issues and solution. For example, I campaigned on providing a more participatory SA process. We now are thinking about a Town Hall meeting which I originally proposed immediately after election. This is personally rewarding to participate in the fruition of ideas.

The first year of the millennium will have much excitement and enthusiasm for the Student Association of George Brown College. Finally, I feel that the steps taken to ensure fuller participation are becoming reality. This is only a beginning and more work remains to be accomplished. See you at Access 2000.

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What is The Beggar's Banquet?

by Edwin Huang

Beggar's Banquet began as an idea to focus on the poor quality of food donated and distributed to the less fortunate through the food bank system.

The plan was to invite government and business people to feast on a banquet of sub-standard food often donated to the less fortunate. Although the food distributed is free, should it not also be edible and safe to consume as well? Much of the "non-perishable" food currently held in food banks are well past expiry dates. Some stock is improperly rotated and the risk of food poisoning is high. The question then becomes a safety concern instead of being picky. Clear guidelines should be implemented to ensure the safety of the food bank clients. Often, food banks are become dumping grounds for unwanted goods donated by the "kindness of a company's heart". How would you like to receive six cans of cranberry sauce the week after Thanksgiving but no turkey?

Since its original conception, the idea has been broadened to include making members of our college community more aware of social issues.

The Beggar's Banquet Mandate:

- Address the issues of poverty and the problems associated with poverty. We will attempt to provide a voice to the voiceless; those who have a lot to say but are not heard.

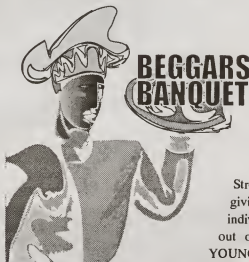
- We will investigate and report on local and

international social issues.

- We will list upcoming community events, which have social relevance and focus on social justice.

- We will attempt to offer possible solutions to problems concerning poverty.

As the thermometer dips to lower and lower depths, as too does the joy of being outdoors. The daily ritual of waiting 15 minutes for that Red Rocket is enough to freeze the toughest barnacles of us all (if you have any). For most of us the chilling temperatures are uncomfortable. To others, less fortunate, the cold weather becomes a challenge-a real life or death situation.



One could go to bed as John Henry and wake up John Doe. If during the next cold snap you do see an individual outside when it is obvious that they probably should not be, you can do something. By calling

Street Helpline at 0-416-392-3777 and

giving the worker a location of the individual, a van will arrive to get them out of the cold. Remember: "FINE YOUNG CANNIBALS FIND TRIPLE

SEVEN" or FYC-F777 or 392-3777. It is not a case of being kind; it is a matter of being human to one another. Watch for us next issue! JOY.

This is the first installment of a regular column under the banner of the Beggar's Banquet. The contributor's to the project are three students from the Community Worker Program at St. James Campus.

If there are any stories that you would like to share or have one of us investigate, then drop us a note at the Dialog office or ask us in person. During future editions it is goal to report relevant items from a socially conscious angle. Culture Jamming and thought provocation hopefully will result from our efforts.

Homelessness – A Growing Issue

by Bonnie Fung

Homelessness and poverty are increasingly becoming a concern in the average person's daily life. Though most of us would like to think none of these issues effect us they do indirectly. How we interpret the situation depends on what we believe.

The myth surrounding the less fortunate of being lazy-no-good-bums is rapidly disappearing. It may be because they have been down on their luck. If we are to believe all homeless people are alcoholics and drug addicts then there is one mindset. If you believe that they're just down on their luck it puts a different spin upon the situation. What we don't know is when or where these problems might hit. They might also hit closer to home than we'd like.

The way we interpret the poverty changes on a daily basis. There was a time when society widely believed that individuals who frequented shelters; went to food banks; or lived on the streets were lazy and not bright. Panhandling for change on street corners gives the impression that they would rather beg than look for a job. But in some cases it is not possible for them to find employment. In regards to these and surrounding issues we would like to straighten out the myths that plague the less fortunate. You never know it could happen to you.

Homelessness and poverty can be stopped

by John Tomcik

Homelessness and poverty can be seen on many street corners around the city.

However, if we can help get these people started on gradually upgrading their status, we won't see as many people on the street anymore. The first and most important thing that the homeless and poor need to do is to be trained to perform certain tasks in order to acquire jobs. An example of this kind of training is the Women's Technology Institute, whose mandate is to allow women to acquire skills to be able to get jobs in information technology. This can hopefully be arranged for men too. If the homeless keep in mind that job training simply teaches them how to do jobs and is not a paid position, there shouldn't be any problems learning the necessary skills.

In New York City, the homeless will be forced to work, and if they don't, will be asked to leave their shelters. This is a sign of action being taken in the U.S. This means that there is a need for training so that the homeless have somewhere to go and something to do when and if the time comes to vacate the shelters. We have just entered a new year. A good new year's resolution for these people would be to start training for jobs and turn their lives around and become successful.

Once they're trained, they can get an education and find good jobs, perhaps by answering "help wanted" ads of some sort, to be able to make a living.

New Services Now Available

by Maria E. Legall

The Alumni Affairs Office is pleased to introduce the services of the CareerWise Program to Continuing Education/Part-time students. The program consists of a range of services developed to address the rising concerns among part-time students about the changes in today's workforce and employment trends. These services are designed to assist part-time students with

- Writing resumes, cover and thank-you letters
- Fine-tuning interview techniques
- Preparing a professional portfolio
- Developing strategies for networking, a professional attitude and image
- Determining ways to upgrade professional skills/knowledge to stay marketable.

We provide information on Dealing with Transition, Understanding Labour Market Trends, Career Management and Self-assessment. To further assist you with your career planning techniques, we offer a variety of career assessments, and have designed a series of informative booklets, as well as handouts and "Tips" from employers from various fields. Our career services also include a resource library with books on career planning, entrepreneurship, job search, etc. as well as many bookmarked Internet sites on our iMac computer. There is also a "Tip of the Week" article available on the Internet through the Alumni Homepage at the GBC website (HYPERLINK <http://www.gbrowncn.ca>) <http://www.gbrowncn.ca>). Just click on the CareerWise site.

Our counselling sessions are one to one and confidential. The first consultation session is free, followed by a maximum of six sessions for \$40.00.

We look forward to working with you.

For more information or to book a session, call Maria E. Legall at (416) 415-2797 or visit our office at the St. James Campus, Room 113.

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Free Love

To all the love birds here at the college the *Dialog* wishes every one a safe and responsible Valentine's day. For those of you who were too shy to write a Free Love Personal, perhaps you could next year

WEINER! EVER SINCE YOU SKIPPED INTO MY LIFE I'VE WANTED TO SKIP OUT!

TO MY BELOVED WHITMORE! HAS IT BEEN ONLY 3 MONTHS? I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! KEN

M - I HAVE WORSHIPPED YOU FROM AFAR TOO LONG. BE MY VALENTINE ALWAYS.

TO HOTTY: YOU HAVE LEFT ME FOREVER RE-ARRANGED GOBBLER

DEAREST ALLEYCAT, YOU ARE THE SWEETEST AND MOST WONDERFUL BOYFRIEND IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD! I LOVE YOU

**VERY MUCH! LOVE YOUR LADY JILL
I WANT THE WORLD TO KNOW THAT WE ARE TRULY LUCKY TO HAVE MADE THIS CONNECTION IN LIFE, I LOVE YOU AND WISH ALL THE VERY BEST FOR YOU MY LOVE VANESSA**

DARLING KENNEDY YOU LIGHT UP OUR TRAILER! COME FIND ME IN THE LOO! -WHITMORE

T.C. EDGE NO ONE COULD WEAR THAT SWEATSHIRT AND THOSE SUNGLASSES LIKE YOU DO. YOU A HOTTY. LET'S GO ON A SKI TRIP AGAIN. D.

TO THE WOMEN OF THE CWP: YOUR BEAUTY TRANCENDS ALL PHYSICALITY YOU'RE ALL INSPIRATIONS -EDWIN

TO THE MONCHICHI WHO NEVER FAILS TO CAPTURE MY HEART I LOVE YOU FOREVER. BABY C

DAN IN G504-1 I THINK YOU'RE REALLY CUTE AND WONDER IF WE COULD GET TOGETHER?

TOTHTAAALGUYWHOWAS ATTHEPUBALDTLASTSEMESTER...WHEREAREYOU?

TO MY LOVE MR BOOGIE! CAN I TELL YOU, YOU HAVE A MILLION DOLLAR PACKAGE!

LOVELY TORRID LOVE-HOW YOUR LOVE LEVELS ME! LOVELY LETTER-RESPONDING YOU!

OH WHERE OH WHERE IS THAT GIRL WITH THE HAIR? SHE'S IN JACK'S GIVIN' ME A HEART ATTACK!

TO SCOTT, THE SMILEY AND TOQUE-SPORTING BOY FROM GET BACK JACK'S - WOULDNT IT BE FUN TO UNDO THE OTHER CLIP ON YOUR OVERALLS?



Dear Torri,

I work with this person who I have a HUGE crush on. The trouble is, there is a large difference in our ages. Occasionally our company has socials, so we do meet outside of the office. We seem to be interested in different things, but when we get back in the office, we seem to be as tight as ever. So far I have managed to not let this person know how I feel.

Valentine's Day is coming and I'd like to tell this person how much they mean to me. How can I do it?

Truly,
Unrequited

I can't possibly answer this question responsibly given the little information provided. But since I'm seldom responsible I'll give it my best shot which is exactly what you should do if: a) this individual is single;

b) this "tight"ness you refer to includes a physical attraction and;

c) your work relationship won't be completely screwed if you do.

I strongly believe that age is completely relative to who you are as individuals, that is if you've got to take chances if you don't want to end up lonely and old with lots of cats (I don't know why, lonely old people seem to all have cats even if they're allergic to them). There is such a thing as optimal mismatch which means that people who have different interests bring interest and character to one another's lives. Although it doesn't hurt to have a few basic interests in common such as each other and, oh I don't know, breathing. You should not give it a shot if:

a) this person has a partner/husband/wife/etc.;
b) this person says things like "I really enjoy going to the airport with a bag of weed in my pocket to mess with the drug sniffing dogs";
c) this person is your boss or your direct report.

As for how to go for it, only you can decide how comfortable you are with various approaches. Personally, I'm a fan

of the "Saaaay... you're cute. You wanna go home with me?" approach but others have suggested that might be too much for them. How about finding an activity you know this person is interested in (and that isn't worse for you than sitting in a tub of ice water until you need to amputate your pinky toes) and suggest going together because you've been wanting to check it out. It could be as simple as suggesting you go for a drink after work — see if s/he has anything interesting to say.

As for Valentine's, forget about it! That's much too much pressure for anyone. Even if the person can't do what you want for reasons that are completely unrelated to you, you will inevitably take it personally. Then you'll feel as though you can't try again because you've had your chance and have been unsuccessful. TRUST ME on this. Timelines are baaaaaaad (kinda like that thing with sheep).

Dear Torri,
A woman in my class is causing me some concern. Occasionally we have to work together on team projects. When this happens, she starts making sexual innuendoes. I really want to be able to work with this woman, but I don't know how to handle her advances.

Any suggestions?
Leave Me Alone.

Ask her to stop because it makes you uncomfortable. If she doesn't stop, make a scene in class by suggesting you go ahead with one of the things she's implying, lay down on a desk and say that if she's so schpack-obsessed that she can't concentrate on a simple task, maybe she should "give you a show". She'll be embarrassed. She'll stop. If this doesn't work — although I have no idea why it

wouldn't — you can call the College's Human Rights Advisor at 415-2720. She'll help you out.

Dear Torri,

This is a difficult topic to write about, so forgive me if I ramble. My boyfriend and I met here at the college. We've been going out for a while but agreed from the start to save sex for later. By winter holidays came we decided we were ready. Jeff lives with two roomies and I live at home so sex at either place is not practical. I thought it would be fun if we rented a seedy motel room and Jeff agreed so we went out along

Kingston Road and signed in as Mr. and Mrs. Mike Harris. As soon as we were in the room we started fooling around and pretty soon we were both down to our underwear. Jeff embraced me and put his hands down the back of my panties and pulled them down. I did the same with him. This is when I saw it. Torri,

I've touched his entire body at various times in our relationship, but I'd never seen him naked before. He has a tattoo on his penis. I can't stand the sight of tattoos; they make my skin crawl. I'm not too proud of what happened next. We had intercourse and I even pretended to have an orgasm too. Jeff knows there is something wrong and he thinks it has to do with his lovemaking. The truth is, I just can't stand the thought of that tattoo up inside me. What can I do?

Mortified.

What the hell does the tattoo have to do with your faked orgasm? Honey, faking an orgasm is nothing to be ashamed of. All women have faked an orgasm at one time or another. It's a fact of life when dealing with male egos. Were you really turned off once you saw that splendid artwork? Is

that why you had to fake? Are you ashamed because his penis gave you the heebie jeebies? Or that you had sex with this guy even though you were turned off? Is it possible that you're upset because there was so much build up and he just didn't do it for you so you're now blaming the penis pie? With very few exceptions, I have seldom been truly floored by a first-time sexual encounter. Sex, particularly with a regular partner, gets better and better. That practice makes perfect has never been more true.

Can you give him a try without looking at or thinking about his pie dick? Personally, I love the look of the darned things so I would feel as though part of the experience was missing. I know a lot of women who prefer to "touch only". Maybe you could become one of them. If you tell him enough other things that make you happy, you should have no problem taking your mind elsewhere. It sounds as though you're pretty close so don't hesitate to tell him honestly how he can satisfy you.

My suggestion is: don't ever tell him that his tattoo grosses you out. He can't do anything about it (without tons of pain, money and disfigurement) and he may really like it. If you say anything he may feel self-conscious and have difficulty when the time comes to perform. As you know, I don't generally advocate being untruthful but this is as good a time as any to lie.

As he senses something is wrong, try heading him off at the pass by telling him that you're really excited to move the relationship forward and want to talk about what you can try next. Get creative. Wow him into forgetting his uneasiness. Buy a blindfold to spice up your interactions and wear it yourself when you give him a blow job.

The other option is to dump this great guy because, you know, there are so many of them out there and they're soooooo easy to find. Right.

Tonid Love Advice 36



THE COLUMNIST IS IN

Horoscopes



Aries (March 20-April 19)

Are you looking for excitement? That sexy and exciting someone is right in front of your eyes. Wake up and smell the coffee! Time to shape up Aries, or you may lose out. Let go of the old headache and get passionate or just plain hot sex!

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Love is in the air! You're all gushy-mushy, and you won't even admit it! Be careful, if that friend finds out you're love crazy, you'll be in trouble. Just hurry it up so you can show the hottie you want some "lovin'" before that friend does!

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You're feeling fatal attraction aren't you? You're so attracted to each other yet you fight like cats and dogs! Keep it in the bedroom, babe! Pretty soon, you'll find yourself in a hard core relationship, somewhere you've been wanted to be!

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Don't be a suck, not everyone is in love. Enjoy single life, get out on the town! The fiercest one-night stand of your life may be in store so GET OUT THERE!

Leo (July 23-August 22)

Your relationship is turning soggy. It's time to dry out! You have lots of spunk and spark so you'll find another cutie to have on your arm for the 14th. You fox, you! Keep it up, 'cause your a heart-breaking babe!

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Someone is seeing your sweet and sincere side and you don't even know it! Someone has a crush on you babe! Maybe a flower or a nice

candy heart will be at your locker on the 14th. Now you have to guess who! Have Fun!

Libra (September 23-October 23)

I think its time to break out of that rut of yours, and try somebody new and sexy! Try somebody means to be daring and mysterious ... give that lucky fox something to never forget on Valentine's Day!

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Whooooaaaaa! I feel some real love stirring here! That new friend and you are really sharing some affection and attraction! Don't disappoint us, Scorpio. You want that person, so you go baby!

Sagittarius (November 22-December 20)

Ouch! What a vibe you're giving off. You're only having a dry spell, relax! That person you have fun with and have lots of friction with will pay off. Friction and Frolic is good sometimes so ENJOY! Surprise us all

Sagittarius, do something daring!

Capricorn (December 21-January 19)

Someone has been tooting your horn! What's up with that? Afraid to admit the love bug bit you? Relax, we have all been there. You're blushing, I know! Go with the flow and get some slow cozy dancing happening... You will be very surprised what the cozziness leads too!

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

You're beaming, babe! It's like a lightning bolt hit and you woke up! Someone or something just got you fired up! Relish in it, enjoy the fun and bubbles, be it champagne or a bubble bath! Come on, Aquarius, show them your magnetic warmth!

Pisces (February 19-March 19)

Are you going to the chapel? It seems you have some powerful attraction and love going on! Bring on the strawberries and cream! Take it day by day and this love will last!

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Got Any New Year's Resolutions?

The clock strikes twelve December 31st 1999... "When I get back to school I'm going to work out everyday and be the most buff guy around...but right now, where's my DRINK!"

How about keeping a new years resolution this year. Being a student at George Brown you have access to the facilities that can make your new resolutions a reality, finally. All you need is a membership. How do you get a membership? It's as simple as making an appointment in the weight room that fits your schedule. When you arrive for your appointment make sure that you are dressed in proper gym attire and have your health card and student ID. The experienced staff will do an assessment of your fitness level and give you a tour of the weight room answering any questions that you may have about the facilities or fitness in general. NO EXCUSES!!

Get Involved

Intramurals have started up again, so if you like to play ball hockey or blind volleyball come and see Albert in the athletic office(6th Floor) for more information or to sign up. Do I have to be blind to play blind volleyball? No, blind volleyball is played with the same rules as regular volleyball; the only difference is that there is a sheet over the net. So you can't see the other team. Intramurals are a great way to stay in shape and meet people.

Huskies on a Roll

The Huskies men's basketball team started off the new millennium with a bang. On the weekend of Jan 7 & 8, George Brown hosted the 22nd Annual Basketball Tournament and saw our Huskies in the finals against long time rivals, the Fanshawe College Falcons. Fanshawe came into the 8 team college tournament as the favourites to win it all, currently ranked as high as 6th in the country. Both Fanshawe and George Brown disposed of their first two opponents, and came into the finals facing each other for the first time ever. It was a grueling match and a see saw battle throughout, but Fanshawe prevailed, winning the game 71 - 66.

Despite the loss in the finals, it was a solid showing for our Huskies, and they had high spirits heading into the game versus Durham on Friday, January 14. Durham was also in the George Brown Tournament, winning the consolation championship. This proved to be a big test for our men's team. Again, the game was hard fought battle, with both teams exchanging leads throughout, until finally the Huskies came out on top, winning 76-74.

Our team has a whole new look for the semester. Four new players have been added to the roster to provide much needed depth for the team. One excellent addition has been Raymond Morgan, a second year General Arts and Science student whose court awareness and ball handling savvy will help the team at the point guard position. Head coach Willie Delas remains optimistic about the team's chances at heading to the final four in March. "We have a new look this semester with much more speed and quickness. The key is that we must be

better on transition defense and need to get as one unit. If our defense gets to where it should be," he adds, "then we'll definitely be a contender for the Ontario". Next game on the schedule is against the Sheridan Bruins here at George Brown on Wednesday January 19, at 7pm. On Friday, January 21, the Mohawk Mountaineers pay a visit to the St. James gymnasium for an exhibition match. Game time is at 8pm.

Lady Huskies Need to Win Big Games

Currently, our lady Huskies basketball team are sitting at 1 win and 1 loss in the new year and at an overall record of 4 wins and 5 losses. Their first game of the new year occurred on January 12, against the Georgian Grizzlies. The Grizzlies were on the prowl as they were coming off their first win ever in their college history, and they hoped to knock off the heavily favored Huskies. However, the Huskies calmed the savage Grizzlies, taming them by a score of 76-59. League top scorer Stephanie Brembridge contributed 27 points to the victory and Elaine Ticzon poured in 24 points. Two days later, the lady Huskies headed to Durham college to face their arch nemesis Lady Lords, whom the Huskies have beaten in their previous encounter at George Brown. Both teams are ranked closely in the standings, and Durham was out for blood. Our Huskies started slowly, falling behind 8-0 within the first couple of minutes, and the lady Lords never looked back. George Brown managed to cut the lead to 4 with 7 minutes to go in the first half, but ultimately fouls stopped the momentum and thus Durham won the

game 67-47.

Every game from now until the playoffs in March is an important one. With all the teams in the standings so close in talent and ability, George Brown needs to win most or all of the remaining games to clinch a playoff spot. Team play becomes much more critical in terms of good play execution and smart shot selection. Head Coach Sharon Butler spent some hard hours over the holidays developing new plays for the team. Team co-captain Traci-Ann Lawrence expresses her concern about the upcoming games, "...the plays work, but not everyone fully understands their role, so it's hard to execute". With this in mind, it's necessary for every player to be at practice, which is still an issue for the team. "We can't even get enough people for a scrimmage", Traci-Ann laments, "so how are we supposed to practice our plays?". Good question.

The next game on the schedule for the Lady Huskies is versus Mohawk on Friday, January 21 here at St. James campus at 6:00pm. The Humber Hawks come to GBC on Wednesday January 26 at 6:00pm as well. Come cheer the Huskies to victory!!

Indoor Soccer Season starts!!!!!!

The Men's and Women's indoor soccer season begins practice and new players are welcome to come and try out. The practice times are as follows: men - every Tuesday from 7 - 8:30pm at Casa Loma, Thursday from 7 - 8:30pm at St. James, women - every Tuesday from 5:30 - 7pm at Casa Loma and Thursday from 5:30 - 7pm at St. James Campus. Any further questions can be answered at 415-2176 or 415-2177.

CFS Takes Ottawa to Task for its Education Funding

By Daniel McKillop

Source: Dalhousie Gazettee (Dalhousie University)

HALIFAX (CUP) - Canada is far from being a world leader when it comes to post-secondary funding, says the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). During a panel discussion last week in Halifax, the CFS, Canada's largest student lobby group, criticized the national trend of rising tuition fees and the push towards private post-secondary institutions and programs. "There is a need to reinvest in public education," said Penny McCall Howard, Nova Scotia's CFS representative and chair of the panel discussion. "Nova Scotia ranks at the bottom of the 60 states and provinces that constitute Canada and the U.S." According to a Statistics Canada report released this past summer, Nova Scotia universities have the highest undergraduate arts tuition in the country at \$4,113. Ontario came second at \$3,872. The

Stats. Can. report also said the average Canadian undergraduate arts student is paying \$3,379 in tuition this year, up from \$3,156 in 1998-99. In comparison, tuition fees in Canada averaged \$1,500 in 1990-91. Meanwhile, the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec have all seen a push to either create a private post-secondary university, or to introduce private programs. The Halifax panel discussion was held as a warm up for the Access 2000 campaign, the CFS's national movement to lobby the federal government to increase education funding. As part of the Access 2000 campaign, the CFS is asking Ottawa to inject \$3.7-billion in provincial transfer payments to help reduce tuition fees, and \$1.2-billion to establish a national system of grants based on need. The money would come from the federal budget surplus, estimated at more than \$95-billion over the next five years. During the

Events For African Heritage Month

Monday Feb 7: Folk performers (NG) 11-12 pm

Tuesday Feb 8: The History of Swing (SJ)

Thursday Feb 17: Movie: The Hurricane \$5.00

Tuesday Feb 22: Caribbean Folk Performers (SJ)

Thursday Feb 24: PUB (SJ) "A salute to African Heritage Month" Luncheon at Hospitality Atrium

panel discussion, Terri Sabbatis, a Native Studies Instructor at Dalhousie University's Transition Year Program, emphasized the importance of accessing higher education for natives. She said the Transition Year Program has a huge line up and each year there are over a 100 people turned down for admission. She said inadequate funding is to blame. "Education should be equally accessible to all who are interested, but unfortunately, this is not the case," she said. CFS takes Ottawa to task for its education funding Fred Furlong, from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, says he's afraid the education system is becoming defined by class. He said money dictates if and where people go to school. He said if post-secondary schools become more privatized, "[Education] will one day be a privilege and not a right." In a world where marked forces ruled, he added, schools that are not profitable would be shutdown. Jen

Anthony, the National Deputy Chair-elect of the CFS, echoed Furlong's comments. "Nothing is more fundamental to democracy than education," Anthony said. "What do we want to see as our society?" The CFS says it is fighting to preserve the quality of education by ensuring equal accessibility in the midst of rising costs and cutbacks to educational programs. Federal social program spending is lower now than at any time since the 1940s. Since taking office in 1993, the federal Liberals have cut \$7-billion from post-secondary education and training. Moreover, real earnings among 18-30 year olds have decreased by 30 per cent over the past 10 years, while students are more in debt today than at any other time. The average student debt upon graduation is \$25,000, with many students accumulating debts of up to \$40,000.

KPI

Watch for it!



Student Association
OF GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE

THE CITY COLLEGE
GEORGE BROWN

The Snowboarding Club's First Trip a Great Success!

by Maria Brand

Faculty Advisor to the Snowboarding Club.

Although the weather was very cold on January 21st, the Snowboarding Club members headed up to Horseshoe Valley to fight the elements. Numerous prizes were raffled off during the trip. Karen Whitbread won a Midweek Seasons Pass to Horseshoe Valley. Thirteen other students won free passes to snowboard or ski; some of the prizes come with lessons and/or rentals.

The trip was planned by Tricia Cacciotti and Claudio Ranini, both students from Graphic Design. Planning this kind of trip takes a lot of time and energy and these students did an incredible job. The Snowboarding Club would also like to thank Alex Barbier and Sheky Yen Woon from the Athletics Department for their support and financial donation.

The next George Brown Snowboarding Club trip will again be Night Boarding at Horseshoe on Friday March 10th. For ticket information and free membership to the club, please call 415-2900 ext. 89920 or Maria Brand at 415-2602.

An odd feeling inside,
In the days that go by
So simple and fine
The days go by.
Morning and nights passes
Yet there are the regrets
To even asking an easy question
Is so ever hard to do.
An audience is there,
Listening to the sounds of the voice.
Beautiful and so sweet and mellow
Through the beyonds of a bright yellow sun.
Passions and fires set a desire,
In ever so moving the moment so true
Among the bluest skies
Hoping for a brand new day
Feelings inside your soul,
Does not change at all
Just act on it
To see how the story begins.

- Ace

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